

Saddles In Service

November, 2020

Vol. 1, Issue 3



We are so excited to share our November Saddles in Service Newsletter. We are certain you will enjoy reading all of the happenings on the Ranch!

Random Horse Facts

Colic & Weather Changes ~ What you can do to protect your horse!

Temperature changes can cause horses to colic is partially true. A drastic temperature in and of itself will not cause a horse to colic, but any changes a horse makes in eating, drinking and movement patterns as a result of temperature changes, just might.

When drastic weather changes are expected, the most important thing you can do is to make sure your horses are physically comfortable and that they are eating and drinking appropriately!

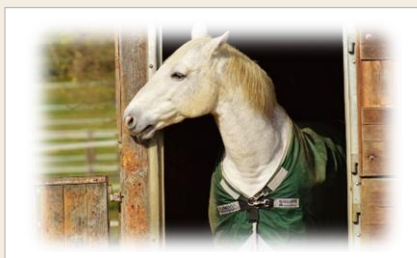


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A Message From Tammy

What a whirlwind October was for all of us at the ranch! We started the month setting up for an unexpected wedding, had a tragic fire in the middle and ended the month with a week of formal training. Our son's wedding was supposed to take place at Viejas but at the last minute, Viejas changed the contract due to Covid 19. So we quickly pulled together and put on the most beautiful Fall wedding with over 325 pumpkins! This worked out perfect as 100 new people learned first hand what we do here at SIS. Through that we also gained a new partner, American Warrior Initiative.

As many of you know, we had a fire two weeks ago here at the ranch. Our very first veteran and ranch hand lives here at SIS. He has lived here in his trailer for the past 2 ½ years. His trailer went up in flames and he lost everything. He was working on getting insurance but unfortunately did not have it in place when the fire happened. The American Warrior Initiative was informed of SIS and what happened with Joe's trailer by the Chaplain's wife (who officiated our son's wedding) and by the next day we were informed they were donating \$18,000 to purchase a trailer for Joe to continue living in. We also had an anonymous donor that added \$10,000 for Joe's trailer. We found and purchased a trailer for Joe to continue living here at his home. I am so thankful for all the love and support that so many people showed during this extremely stressful time for Joe. He lost all of his Army things, his Ranger beret, his uniform and his medals. Yes, they can be replaced but his Beret that he wore meant so very much to him. Joe has gone through a lot this year as he lost a battle buddy to suicide a few months back. I am so grateful that he has all of us at SIS and that we have him!

We are ending the month with a week of formal training for all of our SIS volunteers! We have updated our Standard Operating Procedures and Terms & Conditions. We also went through our Horsemanship Program so everyone is consistent with our program for Heroes and Horses. It was extremely successful!

As we move into the Holiday Season I want to express how thankful I am for all of our volunteers, heroes, horses, donors and all of our supporters! You make a difference every day in the lives of our Heroes and Horses!



Horse Spotlight

BONITA



Bonita has been here at SIS for the past 3 years. She came to us late in life. She is 31 years old and is our other Go To horse. Bonita is an Arabian/Swedish Warmblood cross. Even though she is 31, she is still going strong. She loves to work with Heroes and she loves the trails. She is one of those horses that says “Take me!” Many Heroes have worked with her and she continues to be one of the most requested horses to work with.

SIS Team Highlight



Mike Oluvic
Co-Founder

Mike Oluvic is the Co-Founder of Saddles In Service. He is a native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and a die-hard Steelers fan.

Mike has always sought out the most demanding challenges so he can continuously learn, improve and better himself and others. He is a graduate of the US Naval Academy and served in the Navy for 29 years, retiring as a Navy Captain in 2016.

Mike completed multiple combat zone deployments both afloat and ashore conducting sensitive operations in support of the Global War on Terror for which he was awarded the Legion of Merit and Bronze Star along with a multitude of other personal and unit awards.

He is most proud of the work his wife, and co-founder of Saddles In Service, Tammy is doing to give back to our Heroes who are veterans, active duty military, and first responders. He knows what it means to serve and has made great connections with our Heroes.

HOOF BEATS

I love this time of year! The crisp, cool evenings and mornings, the leaves start to change and pepper the landscape with indescribable beauty, and everything around me seems to be at peace. Maybe it's because Fall is preparing us for the next season where we get to bundle up in front of a warm fire with a good book and a hot cup of coffee (or cocoa) and rest.

Life is an endless circle of seasons. Each is not only needed, they also carry with them priceless gifts. We just have to tune our hearts to notice them. Before long, we will have trained our eyes, ears and hearts to find these blessings in everything part of our day.

When my children were small, each day when I would pick them up from school, before they could roll out their list of frustrations, they had to give me a minimum of three GOOD things that happened in their day. At first, it was a bit of a struggle for them to locate one, let alone three positive things to share. Before long though, they were rattling off several moments and the excitement in their voice was infectious. They couldn't wait to share and were intently looking throughout their day for another "positive" to add to the list. What they didn't realize was that it was training them to focus on the good, the true, the positive and the encouraging. Oh, the frustrations still happened, but they didn't seem to have the same hold on their focus anymore because they were too busy looking for the sun instead of complaining about the shadows.

My social media feed is consumed with the 30 Days of Thankfulness challenge. At first, it annoyed me which took me a bit by surprise. Why in the world would something so life-giving be a source of irritation? After some thought, I began to realize that I had gotten out of the habit of training my focus to locate all the reasons I have to be grateful. They are there! Trust me, they are!!! I simply forgot to look.

A grateful heart takes intent. It is the harvest resulting from sowing the seeds of thankfulness on a daily basis; a bountiful cornucopia of blessings that we get to experience personally and share with others.

In this season of giving thanks, let's start small and find one moment each day that we can be thankful for. It can be as simple as the smell of horse hay, the sight of the beautiful harvest moon rising in the night sky, the nudge of a horse's nose, the taste of warm apple cider, a warm fire, the love of friends and family, a quiet moment in our car, the warmth of a hug, the gaze of a loyal pet, the vibrant colors of changing leaves or the taste of a Thanksgiving feast!

Let us all give thanks for unknown blessings already on their way! Cultivate gratefulness!



Have a Happy Thanksgiving!
We here at Saddles in Service
are grateful for all of you!

Donna Sinema
CCO – Saddles In Service

CALL TO ACTION!!

You have helped to make a difference at Saddles in Service.
Thank you!



On The Horizon OPERATION GIVING TUESDAY

We are excited to announce that SIS will host Operation Giving Tuesday on December 1, 2020! If you, or someone you know, would like to match donations, please let us know.

Mark your calendars and invite your friends and family to participate in this exciting event! You can also share Operation Giving Tuesday on all your social media platforms!

#OperationGivingTuesday
#HelpingHeroes&Horses
#SaddlesInService

If you aren't able to participate in Operation Giving Tuesday, you can still help our Heroes and Horses! Click here to contribute: [DONATE](#)

←————→
**SIS will host a Natural Horseman
Clinic on November 15th.
Contact us for more details.**

SIS Wish List

Want to do more?

The items below can be purchased/donated and allow us to continue to help our Heroes!!

- **2 4-Horse Stock Trailers** ←
- Leather Tools and Supplies
- Ranch Roping Equipment
- Knives
- Camping Equipment
- Sleeping Bags
- Tents
- Garmin In-Reach GPS
- Riding Gloves (all sizes)
- Sunscreen
- Food, Drinks & Water
- Saddle Bags
- Custom Saddles
- Training Sticks
- Training Lunge Lines
- Training Halters (incl. Draft Sizes)
- Fly Masks
- Feed Bags
- Split Reins
- EquiVibe Plate
- Heel-O-Matic "The Trainer"
- 5 Apple Computers
- Business Quality Printer
- Two 8-Horse Mare Motels
- Bobcat
- Covered Area/Building
- 2 Diesel Duallies
- Tractor
- Quad
- Magna Wave PEMF Machine
- 4+ Seat ATV Transporter

See our [website](#) for other ways to help SIS or to sponsor a horse!



No Shave November??

We have a better idea!
SIS Mustache Challenge is in full swing! Take a pic of yourself or with your friends using a horse's mane or tail as your mustache, post it on your social media page and tag SIS! Get creative! Have fun!! Stay safe!!

The winners will receive a special prize from the SIS Team.
#SaddlesInService
#SISMustacheChallenge

Social Media

Help us spread the word about Saddles In Service!!

Know a Hero? Send them our way! Have horse experience and want to give back to our Heroes? We would love to meet you!

**Help us reach our goal of
6,000 Instagram followers and
40,000 Facebook followers
by the end of November!**



We would love to hear from you!

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